

PATENT  
450100-03143

2651  
IFW

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Yoichiro TAUCHI et al.  
Serial No.: 09/824,959  
Filed: April 3, 2001  
For: MAGNETIC-TAPE RECORDING APPARATUS,  
MAGNETIC-TAPE RECORDING METHOD,  
MAGNETIC-TAPE FORMAT, AND RECORDING  
MEDIUM  
Art Unit: 2651

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 29, 2004.

Bruno Polito, Reg. No. 38,580

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

  
Signature

October 29, 2004

Date of Signature

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the attention of applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued in the corresponding European application on

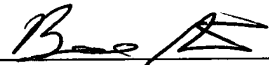
September 29, 2004. So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
Attorneys for Applicants

By:   
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Reg. No. 38,580  
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|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| USPTO Form PTO-1449<br>(3/90)<br><br>LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT<br>(Use several sheets if necessary) | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>450100-03143    | SERIAL NO.<br>09/824,,959 |
|   | APPLICANT<br>Yoichiro TAUCHI et al. |                           |
|   | FILING DATE<br>April 3, 2001        | GROUP<br>2651             |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL   |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE     | NAME            | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF<br>APPROPRIATE |
|                       | AA | 5 574 570       | 11/12/96 | Ohkuma et al.   |       |          |                               |
|                       | AB | 5 933 572       | 08/03/99 | Nagasawa et al. |       |          |                               |
|                       | AC |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                       | AD |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                       | AE |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                       | AF |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                       | AG |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                       | AH |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                       | AI |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                       | AJ |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                       | AK |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |          |         |       |          |                       |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-----------------------|
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL      |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE     | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |
|                          | AL | EP 0 940 804    | 09/08/99 | Europe  |       |          |                       |
|                          | AM | EP 0 723 267    | 07/24/96 | Europe  |       |          |                       |
|                          | AN |                 |          |         |       |          |                       |
|                          | AO |                 |          |         |       |          |                       |
|                          | AP |                 |          |         |       |          |                       |

| OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|          |                 |

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.